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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger Chairwoman Committee on Appropriations H-305, the Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations 1036 Longworth HOB Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As you begin crafting the Fiscal Year 2024 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, I respectfully request funding for the Springfield OR Police Department Comprehensive Training Package project, in the amount of \$200,000 within the Committee's State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance — Byrne Justice Grant account as part of the Committee's Community Project Funding effort.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Springfield, located at 225 5th Street, Springfield, OR 97477. The funding would be used to expand and enhance public-safety training programs for Springfield Police Department (SPD) police officers.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds. Like many law enforcement agencies throughout the country, the City of Springfield's Police Department (SPD) is undergoing a process of modernizing its police force. SPD wants to update and improve training programs for its officers. While current SPD training focuses on what is required by state or federal law, SPD currently lacks the resources to focus on more comprehensive, non-mandated trainings that are just as important for ensuring a robust and modern police force that builds community trust and ensures effective responses to law enforcement scenarios.

The City of Springfield's requested funding would be used for improvements to SPD's officer training program, including increasing the frequency and quality of training. These training improvements would focus on modern de-escalation and risk reduction techniques, as well as human trafficking. Increased funding would also incorporate modern technological developments, including allowing SPD to implement a Virtual Reality training program and expanding in-person, scenario-based training delivery.

SPD's police force is an essential tool for maintaining the City of Springfield's public safety. Establishing a more comprehensive and modernized training program for SPD officers will ensure that SPD can continue to

provide its public safety service while also improving officer-citizen relations and facilitating positive law enforcement outcomes for the community.

This project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34. U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely

Val T. Hoyle

Member of Congress